THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 17TH MAY.

A CONTEMPORARY announces that Bombay is to be favoured with a visit from a unique theatrical combination which has, during the six years of its existence, met with the unflagging support of the Australian public. The whole of the members of the dramatic corps, which numbers about thirty, are all under the age of eighteen; but, notwithstanding this fact, many of them may be termed veterans in their profession having "trod the boards" for ten or eleven years. We are not by any means sure that the combination is a very unique one after all. Those who are acquainted with the *jatras* of our country know that they are chiefly composed of boys who take the leading part in the singing dancing and acting, both in male and female parts, and the superiority of the chorus of boys, without which no *jatra* is complete, determines the superiority of the company. But we for one would be glad if the tender boys could be saved from the ways of evil at so early an age. *Kushilava* or the "bad-moraled" is one of the Sanskrit names for actors, and no wonder that they should be true to their name when trained in the ways of evil from infancy.

THERE are said to be 11,000 female students in the colleges of the United States. We cannot regard this as an extraordinarily large number, considering the go-aheadism of America. But our country unfortunately could not boast of as many male undergradutes, and our benevolent Government would fain see the number reduced, and get the residue turned votaries in the temple of cobbling and basket-making.

LARGE masses of Russian troops are being concentrated on the Gallician frontier, and General Gourko, the Governor-General of Poland, has returned to Warsaw. What is the reason? Is anything up again in that quarter? We should have thought that the unfortunate Poles deserved a respite from their sufferings. Perhaps the massing is needed for some other quarter which Russia is not disposed to particularise.

THE newspaper *Kars* reports the appointment of a Commission on the Russo-Turkish frontier of Asia Minor "to investigate the conduct of a Turkish officer of frontier guards, who in July last crossed the Russian frontier several times with his men and endeavoured to drive away a herd of cattle belonging to the Russian village of Thiogan. He and his men beat all who attempted to oppose them with the buttends of their muskets, and fired among the outraged inhabitants. After repeated complaints made at Constantinople, the Porte has at last instructed the Vali of Erzeroum to appoint a Commission to investigate the matter on the spot." We wonder no ultimatum was sent in, for here was an opportuuity that does not occur every day, and it might have been considerably improved by Russian ingenuity.

THE JULY number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* will contain, by the permission of the Under-Secretary of State, 14 letters, or extracts from them, relating to the "Afghan Conquest of Persia', which had not been published before. These letters were all written by Englishmen at the time, and mostly by the Company's agents at Ispahan. They are said to be of the greatest historical interest and importance, as they form a contemporary chronicle of some of the most striking events in Asiatic history immediately before the establishment of English power in India.

IT IS asserted by several German newspapers that the Queen is desirous of bringing about a marriage between the Grand Duke of Hesse and the Duchess of Albany. The Duchess originally met her late husband at Darmstadt during the autumn of 1881.

WE REGRET to hear from Gwalior, that the Maharaja's health continues to cause grave anxiety to his near friends and relations. The *sannyasi* who was sent by H. H. Holkar to attend on the Maharaja has failed, we hear, to do him any good, and has left Gwalior, and the Resident, at the request of Sir Gunput Rao, it is said, has telegraphed to the Agent to the Governor-General for medical aid. The Maharaja had lately an attack of diarrhœa which greatly prostrated him.

TUESDAY, 18TH MAY.

THE DULL monotony of our little Pedlingtonian debates was greatly relieved on Saturday the 15th by no small amount of cutting logomachy, violent personalities, amusing vituperation, and volunteer declarations. Our good friend, Dr. Mohendralala Sircar, who is never jolly until he falls out of the line—for eccentricity is a characteristic of genius,—went clean out of the subject of his debate by making a *confessio fidi*. He was not, he said, "a champion of Hinduism or any other ism." This means, if it means any thing that he has no religion, but he did not mean any thing of the kind; only it is not good form to obtrude one's agnosticism out of season.

BABU KALINATH MITRA tumbled into a mare's nest. He discovered no less than 19,000 *slaughter-houses*—mind slaughter-houses and not meat shops—in London. He discovered too—a startling discovery—that no less than 75 per cent of Hindoos now-a-days were promiscuous eaters of beef: the word used was *gokhadak*. This evoked much "laughter," and thereupon he corrected himself by saying "meat,' meaning of course *flesh meat*. As 40 per cent of the total of the Hindoos are females the conclusion to be drawn is that all the Hindoo males and over one third of the females were Gokhadaks or "promiscuous eaters of beef." The goodBabu might have spared this gross insult to his orthodox countrymen. He has, doubtless, risen above the prejudices of his nation, and taken to Tangra fillets of beef or tender slices of veal for breakfast, but his kith and kin, perhaps his brother and uncle, are still attached to river bathing and the tulsi beads.

Dr. Lall Madhub Mookerjee, though a medical man, and not above prescribing pepsine and *fellis' tauri inspissati* for his patients, could not swallow this; so he said:

"Your mathematics are wrong.
Baboo Kali Nath Mitter—You are one of the number.
Dr. Lall Madhub—You speak a lie.
Baboo Kally Nath Mitter—I protest, Sir, against such language.
The Chairman—Order, order, you must not use such language.
Baboo Kally Nath Mitter—You can't deny that you advised me to eat fowl.

(Really, and did you follow his advice?)

Dr. Sircar tried to act the *amicus curiæ* by saying "It is no reason because we prescribe meat for our patients that we eat it ourselves," but he failed. His brother Doctor "hoped that every one would vote against the amendment, and that no one would be led away by the opinion of any pseudo-patriot and half-Anglicised Hindoo. He respected the opinion of every true Hindoo, of every true Mahomedan, and of every true Christian, but the opinion of one who was neither Hindoo, Mahomedan or Christian was not worth the paper it was written on; it was fit, and fit only, for the waste-paper basket." (The opinion was expressed *viva voce*.) Is this a reproduction of what we called "irreligious reprobates?" Baboo Narendra Nath Sen was of opinion that "the mover of the amendment had, by his speech, outraged the feelings of all Hindoos, and all right-thinking men, and there was no arguing with him, for his reason, at the best, was not worth much. (Laughter.)" A little more of Municipal amenities of this kind, and the public will not feel the absence of Dave Carson from the town. We take the extracts from the *Statesman's* report.

THE following passage quoted by the *Statesman* from colonel Malleson's *Decisive Battles of India* will clear up many things in regard to Maharaja Daleep sing:

"Against the British protectorate the Sikh army rose, the interpreters of the national feeling against foreign over-lordship. The British army subdued that rising and conquered the Punjab. The question then arose, for whom? The answer of Sir Henry Lawrence was clear and precise. "We have conquered the Punjab, he said in so many words, 'for the young Chief, of whom we are the guardians. But other answers were given, displaying the agressive nature of the Anglo-Saxon. These had most weight with Lord Dalhousie and he decided that the Punjab had been conquered for England. The Punjab consequently was annexed. Against the annexation I do not venture a single word. It must have come sooner or later, and it was better to take it after a fair fight than to steal it in the manner we adopted towards Oudh some five years later. But for this guiltless boy, for this young Maharaja, of whose interests we were the guardians, for Dhuleep Singh, surely some fitting provision should have been made. Granted that we did well to take his kingdom *by what right did we annex his private estates? This is a question in which the honor of the country is concerned.* It behoves us also to demand, whether a pension for one uncertain life is sufficient compensation for the loss of a great position, and the forfeiture of his inalienable property."

But who listens to the voice of justice and reason when self-interest is at stake?

WEDNESDAY, 19TH MAY

THE biggest pump in the world is in America, and is used to pump water out of a zinc mine near Fredensville, Lehigh country. It was constructed at Merrick's Foundry, in Philadelphia, in 1870, and its cost was nearly $1,000,000. Its several parts were so heavy that all the bridges along the line of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, from Philadelphia to Centre Valley, had to be strengthened to guard against accident. The cylinder of the engine has a diameter of 110 inches, the piston-rod being 14 inches in diameter. It has a stroke of 12 feet, and in one minute forces over 20,000 gallons of water, or 30,000,000 gallons daily, out of the mine to a height of 130 feet. The length of the plunger is 200 feet. The two fly-wheels weigh 64 tons each, and the walking beam is nearly 50 feet long. It is patterned after the engines used in Cornish mines, and is simple in construction. America is the home of monster machines like these.

A C. S. of Bombay suggests the taxation of *supari* instead of incomes. Not a bad idea, considering that the only luxury, nay necessity of Indians, will be taxed and the taxing machinery move on without troubling C. S. or his brood. It is a pity the suggestion had not come earlier.

A SILLY writer in the columns of the *Madras Times* has discovered a panacea for wife-murders, namely the abolition of child marriage. The following is the line of argument which conducts the ingenious reformer to his happy result. The girl, if young, has to be sent to her parents when she expects to be a mother and has a few months' holidays in her native village, where she is very happy and very free and contracts bad habits which develope into license on her unwilling return to her husband and the result is murder. Queer reasoning this. We wonder if miss some body, *nee* Mrs. Wingrove late of Jubblulpore, who was married after courtship and consent according to orthodox *dustoor* was sent to her "native village" when she expected to be a mother. But we forget she was sent and the reasoning becomes quite formidable. Gallant Colonel Macpherson however had intervened earlier we are afraid. The writer ought to be a strong ally of the Bombay reformer.

M. REMENYI, has published the impressions of his visit to India. He gives vent to the following opinion:—"One great fault I find with the English, and this is, that they do not assimilate themselves sympathetically enough with the people they are called upon to govern. The Englishman is the *beau ideal* of fair-play. But that is not enough. Paternal and purely eastern ways, human sympathy, one touch of nature, all those combined would do more in the end than simple fair-play." The rulers of India will take long to perceive the truth and beauty of the idea. Would that the Monsieur's celestial music could impart it to them!

IT IS rumoured that an interview between the Czar and the Sultan will take place shortly in the Black Sea, on board a Russian vessel. The Czar will, it is said, be accompanied by M. de Giers, and the Sultan by Said Pasha. All bosh. What can be the object of the interview? Alarmists need not fear a Russo-Turkish Convention against Great Britain and her dependencies. It is the merest impossibility.

LANDED property in England is depreciating at a rapid rate. An estate in the North Riding of Yorkshire, for which £12,500 was paid a few years ago, was offered for sale at Malton lately for £9,000, but the highest bid was only £7,000. Bengal zemindars fare much worse and cannot complain.

A NEW life of "Chinese" Gordon, by his brother Sir Henry Gordon, has just been published. Sir

Henry Gordon's narrative throws light upon one or two of the obscurer passages of his brother's life. The story of his short connection with Lord Ripon is fully explained for the first time. It appears that Colonel Gordon, on arriving in India, had the papers connected with Yakoob Khan's interment placed before him. Rightly or wrongly, he came to the conclusion that Yakoob was unjustly charged with complicity in the Cabul massacres, and, rather than be a party to an unjust transaction, even as a Private Secretary, he threw up the appointment at once. That was an unmistakable trait of nobility indeed, and showed the man in his right colours.

THURSDAY, 20TH MAY.

A CONTEMPORARY reports an instance of the oppressive working of the Arms Act in the Mufassil. An innocent *Yogi* held in high esteem by the Hindu public of Naraingunge for his ascetisism and purity of life, was hauled up the other day before the Magistrate on the charge of having a rusty and useless sword iu his possession without license. The *Yogi* wanted the sword for some yoga purposes but did not defend himself as he was under the vow of silence or *Mouna vrata*, and was, it is reported, sentenced to be rigorously imprisoned for fifteen days. Will the authorities be pleased to take trouble of enquiring into this unjustifiable act of oppression, and let the public know whether the facts are substantially true.

ONE knows not when or how the zeal of our reformers is to be quenched. An anti-zenanaist suggests a novel mode of liberating our females without doing violence to national prejudices. He calls science into requisition and thinks that the telephone ought to be a good factor in our reforms by enabling our females to converse freely with their friends without violating the zenana. The telephone, the reformer thinks, would be of "invaluable assistance in any scheme which has for its object the enlightenment of the women of India.' Enlightenment would be a cheap commodity indeed if it could be had with so little aid ; the telephone we guess would be quite mighty a factor in furthering and facilitating intrigues if it could be introduced into our zenanas. We wonder how sober Anglo-Indian journals can lend themselves to silly ideas like these. But possibly the reformer may be some way connected with a telephone concern.

THE Chief Justice of Madras, Sir Arthur Collins, has taken the initiative in reference to an English custom which will no doubt be duly appreciated by jurors, and which might be conveniently adopted on certain occasions in this Presidency. His Lordship, in dismissing the jury that tried the Garstin Dacoity Case, observed that in England it was the custom to grant jurors engaged for several days together in inquiring into a case, an indemnity from serving on the jury ; and in the present case he would grant them an indemnity for three years. Sir Arthur's sense of justice has deservedly made him popular in his Presidency.

ACCORDING to the *Civil and Military Gazette* :—"Among the numerous items of expenditure which are being considered by the Finance Committee at Simla, it may readily be supposed that the cost of the annual Government migration to the hills has not escaped notice. 'What will be the fate of the minor Governments is not yet known ; but the rumour goes that the Government of India will have to decide between remaining throughout the year either at Calcutta or Simla. It will be remembered that, some time ago, a question was asked in Parliament regarding the cost of the "picnic,,' but the query has remained unanswered ; it may be, because of the appalling revelations which an examination of the accounts resulted in. Among the many suggestions now made as to the changes likely to be proposed, the two most in favour are that a number of the Government offices should be permanently fixed in Calcutta, while the Viceroy, with a small establishment, will visit Simla as usual ; or that the whole of the Government offices will be fixed in Simla, the Viceroy only visiting Calcutta for about a month in the course of his cold weather tour." Of the two the former would be the lesser evil beyond question, It is useless to ask if the whole thing could not be done without. Any reform in this direction would be accepted. Sixty lakhs of rupees, or about as much as will be raised by the income tax every year, have been recently sunk in the Government offices at Simla.

IT IS SAID that Mr. Arthur Crawford, who has just gone to Simla, will shortly proceed to Aden where the Maharaja Duleep Sing is still a "guest" at the Residency. Mr. Crawford is Theebaw's "guardian," and is he being sent to Aden to invite the Maharaja to share Theebaw's apartments at Ratnagiri ? The arrangement would be cheap, and convenient withal.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL J. W. MCQUEEN, Commanding the Hyderabad Contingent, will, a telegram says, most probably succeed Sir Charles Macgregor as Commander of the Punjab Frontier Force.

SIR MADHAVA RAO suggests that unemployed graduates would do well to enlist in the police. The Government might encourage the step, he thinks, by offering them a fair start and fair prospect. We would suggest the corps of nightmen as more befitting. The Gallant Knight has simply run mad.

FRIDAY 21ST MAY.

A WELL-INFORMED writer in an English Magazine tries to make out that the mongoose is a bird. The moongose is invulnerable to cobra poison, and "its activity is aided by its wings." The process of averting the cobra's attack is thus described with scientific minuteness. "The cobra," he writes, "would come flap down where the mongoose was, the bird skipping nimbly away, and in its turn pouncing from behind on the head of its adversary and crushing it." This belongs to the genus "ferocious dhoolies "chaprasis" for breakfast, Chandimondab for a witness, &c &c., &c.

THE Gothard Railway Company will make arrangements on June 1 to save two-and a-half-hours in the journey from London to Brindisi over and travellers will appreciate this change, as it not only offers the advantage of a quicker journey than the Mount Cenis route, but also the attraction of finer scenery.

MANHATTAN ISLAND, Professor Fairchild says, is gradually sinking, and the sea will yet cover the present site of New York. But when ? The whole of America will perhaps share the same fate, some day or other.

THE FRENCH Minister of War has decided that the troops returning from Tonquin shall be received in France with the honours due to their gallantry and glorious exploits. An order has been given to the Mint to strike off 30,000 medals for the survivors of the expedition. The number seems to be a little too large for the amount of glorious exploits.

RAJA SIR DINKAR RAO, K. C. S. I., who resides at Allahabad, is writing an article for the October number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* discussing the changes which have taken place in the characteristics of India since the day when he played a leading part in politics, and giving reminiscences of events in which he personally played a part.

PRINCE Bismark received an intimation last month that a rich merchant in Warsaw, who had emigrated from Prussia about fifty years ago, and who had died recently, had bequeathed him £1,000 with a request that the amount might be expended in a piece of plate or some object of art by which the testator might be remembered. The gratitude must be of the most lively order if it dates so far back as fifty years.

THE RETURNS of the railway-borne traffic of the Central Provinces for the last quarter of 1885, show an increase as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1884 of upwards of two lakhs of maunds. In the imports the increase was chiefly in coal, cotton piece-goods, yarn, and sugar, the increase in coal being due to an improved demand for Bengal coal at Jabalpur.

IT IS REPORTED that the Minister has completed a scheme for the reduction of the Nizam's Irregular Troops, which will shortly be submitted to His Highness. It is said to be not unlikely, if the Minister's proposals are accepted, that reductions to the extent of seven or eight thousand men will be effected, involving a saving of some three or four lakhs in the military expenditure of the State. Reduction of unnecessary military expenditure, in times when there is hardly any demand for the military is welcome alike in British India and the Native States. But we hope there has been no dictation from above for the reform, for then the point of it would be lost. Economy should not stand in the way of efficiency. The armies of our princes are a thorn at many people's side.

THE year 1885 was disastrous enough for French railways ; but the present year, so far as it has gone, promises to be much worse. It appears that there has been a diminution of receipts down to April 1, amounting to nearly thirteen million francs. This shows that France is suffering from a rapidly deepening depression ; but of course a part of the decrease must be attributed to the strikes.

IN ALL probability a very important reduction, it is stated, will take place in the tariff for Press Messages between London and the Australian Colonies, and London and India, and *vice versa*, from early in July next. As regards India, the rate from London, which is now 4*s*. 6*d*. a word, will be reduced to 1*s*. 4*d*. a word ; whilst the rate from India, now Rs. 2. 12. will become either As. 15, or one rupee per word.

THE ventilation of the subject of levying the income tax on salaries and incomes due for March, has had some effect. A Finance Department resolution authoritatively decides that such tax is not payable on sums due and ordinarily payable in March, though the payment is deferred till April. As such incomes have already suffered the deduction on account of the tax, it is to be hoped that a refund will at once be made to the recipients.

SATURDAY, 22ND MAY.

WILD elephants appear to be on the increase in the sub-Himalayan tracts of the North-Western Provinces. By an order in the latest official *Gazette* of these Provinces, the District officers of Saharanpore, the Dun, Garhwal, and Kumaon are permitted to grant licenses to sportsmen for shooting rogue elephants in the country between the Jumna and the Sardah. The licenses do not hold good for herd elephants, but only for any particular animals that may have gained a notoriety for doing mischief.

IT IS reported that Mrs. Bartlett, the heroine of the Pimlico poisoning case, has already received seventeen offers of marriage, including one from a clergyman. A paper says :—"Such offers of marraige, always including one from a clergyman, are the invariable fortune of ladies who are accused of poisoning their husbands or lovers. The number of seventeen has probably been increased tenfold by this time, if we are to judge by the recorded experience of Madeline Smith, the heroine of the great Scotch poisoning case, in 1858.

MR. JOHN Bigelow, who was appointed by the New York Chamber of Commerce to examine the Panama Canal, has made an elaborate report on the subject. He estimates that if the work be vigorously prosecuted till the close of 1886, about one-fifth of the excavation will then be completed. He declines to give any opinion as to the date when the canal will be completed, or as to its total cost, its revenue, or the probability of the required means being provided for its construction.

BABU PROSUNNO KUMAR BASU has, says the *Dacca Gazette*, sued Municipal Commissioners of Dacca, in the Court of the Second Sadar Munsiff, for the refund of the money spent by them in decorating the town on the occasion of the Lieutenant-Governor's last visit to Dacca. The issue of the suit will be watched all over the country with anxious solicitude. It is an important test case, and the plaintiff should not be wanting in securing the best available legal assistance.

UNDER the title of "India Revisited," Messrs. Trubner and Co. will shortly publish—with additions descriptive and poetical—the letters which Mr. Edwin Arnold contributed to the *Daily Telegraph* during his recent journey in India and Ceylon. The work will be embellished with thirty-two illustrations from photographs selected by the author.

A HOME RULE party has been started in Italy. Parliament has been dissolved, and the work of electioneering has commenced. Of all the programmes put forward the most singular is that of a Deputy Signor Achille Fazzari. Its two main features are the reconciliation of the Vatican with Italy, and a sort of South Italian Home Rule.

MR. GLADSTONE, observes an English paper, has a great belief in the effect on the mind of his hearers of a floral get-up and on both occasions of his remarkable utterances on the Home Rule Bill went down to the House bearing blossoms on his breast. On a memorable occasion the Premier had ventured to add a sprig of fern to his flower. This standing upright, just managed to touch his cheek, and, as he moved his head, it exasperatingly tickled him. The gravity of the occasion was disturbed by the spectacle of the pre-occupied Premier battling, with growing desperation, with an imaginary fly. Since, he has avoided this difficulty by omitting the fern. Usually a little careless in the dress, he was got up with scrupulous neatness on this occasion. To be worthy of the occasion, we suppose.

IN the rush to the cloakroom after Mr. Gladstone's speech, says an English paper, the hon. member for a Scotch city put on what he took to be his overcoat, but on crossing Palace Yard discovered a revolver in each pocket, things which he does not usually carry, and detecting himself in a strange garment returned to the cloakroom. Here he found a distinguished Irishman "P" with a coat in his hand which the quietly-disposed Scotch gentleman recognised as his. Mutual explanations followed, with smiling apologis and an exchange of garments. There is no sanguinary sequence to relate in connection with this trange event. Is Mr. Parnell in constant fear of Loyalists that he finds it necessary to carry about him a brace of revolvers ?

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1886.

LOSS BY EXCHANGE.

THE Financial Member of the Viceroy's Council bitterly complains of the disastrous effect on the Indian Budget of the progressive fall in the value of silver. The vital difficulty which the Government of India has to encounter is that, with a revenue which is almost wholly in silver, it has to provide in gold the funds necessary for the protection of the country, whether from famine or from the point of view of military requirements, *to bear an ever-increasing burden on account of gold obligations*, and to add largely to this burden by borrowing in gold. "We could have," says the Minister of Finance, "provided for our famine railways, for our coast defences, and for our frontier works, and we could have left the provinces to their career of steady progress, without anxiety and almost without difficulty, if we had been able to carry out our calculations in a medium which possessed some stability. Indian finance, and Indian administrative advance and improvement, have become, in a word, questions of currency." It is fruitless, he adds, to persist in economies, to abandon or delay works of which the necessity has been demonstrated, to devise sources of increase to our revenue, if the result of economy, prudence, taxation, alike disappear in the great gulf of exchange. One of the chief difficulties of the Government has now become the necessity of finding funds for filling up the annually increasing deficit caused by the growing loss in exchange. The worst feature of the silver difficulty is that the solution of the financial problem in India does not depend on the working of the departments of the Government of India, but on the decision taken at Washington in regard to the coinage of silver in America. The Government of India has called the earnest attention of the Secretary of State to this vexed question, and is pressing upon him the absolute necessity, whether in the interests of this country, or of the Empire in which it occupies so important a position, of seeking in concert with the Powers of Europe, and with the United States of America, for a solution of the silver difficulty.

The loss we sustain by exchange can be estimated from the fact that one Indian Rupee is valued at present at 12as in England or less. The amounts which we have to pay to the Secretary of State are annually increasing, and we have not only to meet this increase by imposing additional burdens upon us, but have also to satisfy the insatiable appetite of the exchange monster. The silver difficulty declared itself since the demonetisation of silver in Europe in 1873, and since that year we have been paying enormous sums to meet the Secretary of State's drawings in England. Within the last ten years we have lost no less than 25 crores of Rupees by exchange alone. In 1881-82 we had to pay the Secretary of State's Bills to the extent of 18 million pounds. The silver value of this amount was upwards of 22 crores. In 1883-84 the drawings also came up to the same amount, exclusive of Bills drawn on account of the Commission for the reduction of the debt. Well, the Indian Treasury had to pay 229 millions of Rupees in satisfaction of all these Bills. Provision has been made for drawing by the Secretary of State in 1886-87 to the amount of £13,334,400 true sterling. To meet this amount we have to pay Rs.3,33,28,500 in addition, or Rs. 16,66,43,500 in all. It is to meet this increasing burden that the most harassing impost, in the shape of income tax, has been imposed upon us. A forecast of our financial position has become utterly impossible. No human foresight can calculate now the yearly deficit which the Indian Government shall have to provide for on account of the depreciation of silver.

One of the latest financial messages from London is to the effect that France is absorbing gold to an enormous extent, and that in one day no less than £ 325,000 in gold was withdrawn from the Bank of England for Paris. Bar silver is quoted at 45⅞d per ounce. All this means a further appreciation of gold, and a larger fall for silver. Some idea of the progressive fall of silver will be obtained from the fact that when the demonetisation process first commenced in 1873, the value of silver was 60 9/16d per ounce in the London market. It was 58 5/16d in '74, 50⅝ in '84, 48 4/5 in '85 and 45⅞ in May 1886.

To understand the cause of this progressive fall, it is necessary to remind our readers, that when Germany received an indemnity of 200 million pounds from France, she felt herself in a position to introduce the gold standard. Before this she possessed a silver currency. Preliminary steps towards the demonetisation of silver were taken in December 1871, and the change was brought in operation in July, 1873. Germany was quickly followed by Denmark, Sweden and Norway, which altered their silver standard to a gold standard. In 1873America changed her bi-metallic to a gold standard. In 1874 the Latin Union—France, Belgium, Switzerland and Italy—suspended the free coinage of silver, the bi-metallic principle ceased to operate, and the ratio of exchange between gold and silver varied just as the ratio of exchange between any two commodities not used as money would vary. It should be mentioned here that in 1803 France adopted the legal ratio of 1lb. of gold to 15½ lbs. of silver, and as the French coinage was sufficiently large to maintain this ratio against other countries, it became the ratio of the civilised world, until, after the lapse of 70 years, France refused to coin silver freely, and so destroyed the fixed ratio. A ratio of 1 to 15½ between gold and silver corresponds to a price of 60⅞d per ounce for silver. The present price of silver in London. as we have shown above, is 45⅞d per ounce, so that the value of the Rupee is considerably less than 1*s.* 6*d.* per Rupee. This being the case, the Indian resources are immensely crippled.

The great gold discoveries, as is well-known, took place in the middle of the present century, and thus there was an increased supply of gold. In 1850 the gold supply rose to 9 millions sterling, and in 1856 it is believed to have exceeded 32 millions sterling. From that date there has been a steady tendency to decrease, and in the present day the total production is believed to be under 20 millions. The silver supply at the present day is about 23 millions sterling. The relative production of gold and silver has been very nearly the same during the last few years. The quantities of gold and silver in the hands of man at the present day are very nearly equal. Had silver not been demonetised in Europe, or had the old legal ratio of 1 to 15½ been maintained, Indian finances would not have been in such a deplorable condition as they are at present. The rate of exchange at 1s 6d per Rupee has imposed an additional burden on Indian finance of upwards of 2 crores per annum.

Is there no remedy by which the present silver difficulty can be removed? Various means have been suggested. To our minds not one of these expedients will secure the desired end. One school of reformers is of opinion that *bi-metallism* will cure the evil, while others declare that *mono-metallism* is the only remedy.

One party contends that it is possible to use both metals as money, a fixed ratio being, for certain purposes, established by law between them when coined into money, and it is expedient if not absolutely necessary so to use them; while the other party contends that a fixed ratio between the two metals is an impossibility both in theory and practice, and that each country can and should use one only of the metals as its standard, the ratio of exchange between the two metals being left to adjust itself by the operation of natural laws. Bi-metallists do not claim that the *market price* of gold and silver shall be fixed by law. They merely wish to see the currency regulated in a certain way, and they hold that the result will be to maintain a constant market ratio between gold and silver. The mono-metallists hold that a gold currency alone can extricate India from her present position. Silver should be demonetised in India, and a gold standard introduced into the country. India suffers because her receipts are in silver, while some of her payments are in gold. Well, if we have a gold currency, then both our revenue and expenditure will be in gold, and there will be no loss by exchange. We cannot understand how the adoption of one or other of these expedients will remove all commercial difficulties. Neither bi-metallism nor mono-metallism will be a panacea for the existing evils. The Commissioners appointed by the English Government to report on the Monetary question declared that they were of opinion that the impossibilities of establishing a bi-metallic system by common agreement for all the world were so obvious that it was not worth while urging the matter. "A single gold standard," they added, "throughout the world would be a false utopia, and further steps in that direction might tend to produce incalculable disasters to the commerce of the world." The flaws in this line of argument are obvious, but it is too late in the day now to dwell upon them. A concert of the leading commercial nations is no utopia, and with judicious and earnest exertions it may be attained, and that will at once solve our difficulty.

THE HOME RULE SCHEME.

MR. GLADSTONE'S Home Rule scheme for Ireland yet trembles in the balance, and its fate depends on the turn that the debate on the second reading of the Bill will take. BaronReuter for once played the false prophet when he told us on Tuesday that the division of the House on the second reading was expected on Friday last. The House, we are now told, have agreed to a motion without a division to discuss the Home Rule Bill for four days in the week, and the Premier believed that the debate would occupy most of this week. A division, however, will take place shortly, and, should the result be unfavourable a dissolution is regarded as inevitable on all hands. To avoid the disadvantages of a dissolution so soon after the late general Elections, Mr. Labouchere suggests that the Bill should be read a second time, thereby affirming the principle of Home Rule, upon the understanding that the Government consented to withdraw the Bill afterwards. This course is open to obvious objections, and, whatever its theoretical advantages may be as regards the affirmation of the principle—by itself, we are bound to admit, no small gain—its practical advantages are by no means so apparent. It is not at all likely that Mr. Gladstone will consent to such a course; he would rather leave things to take any turn they may. That so advanced a Liberal like Mr. Labouchere should advocate the withrawal of the Bill, shows that time is far from strengthening Mr. Gladstone's cause and augurs not well of it success. On the debate being resumed on the 17th instant the Right Hon. Sir R. A. Cross said, that the Bill offered no prospect of finality or good government. The Right Hon. James Stansfield, President of the Local Government Board, on the other hand spoke in support of the Bill most warmly, and said that it would smooth the way for federation and strengthen the Union and the Empire. Liberal and Conservative meetings are being held every day all over the country to condemen the Bill, and it looks as if its fate is sealed. At a large Conservative Meeting held on the 15th instant, Lord Salisbury made a long address in the course of which he said that it was impossible to place any confidence in the Irish, and he therefore advocated a continuous policy of coercion. At another meeting held at Her Majesty's theatre on the 19th instant the noble Lord corrected himself and made a speech in which he said that his advocacy of a continuous policy of coercion in respect to Ireland had been greatly exaggerated. His Lordship urged that Parliament should grant powers to govern Ireland which should be firmly and wisely exercised. In a speech made by Lord Hartington at Bradford on the 13th he declared his unabated hostility to Home Rule. However noble and statesmanlike Mr. Gladstone's scheme may be it has to face the most formidable opposition of a body of Whig and Tory, Conservative and Radical combined in an unhallowed band. The Grand Old Man stands in almost tragic grandeur, undaunted by this show of surging opposition, and hopes yet, with the blessings of the Ruler of Nations to overcome and ride triumphant over the obstacles heaped in his way by narrow-hearted and interested obstructionists. But to achieve the end, if indeed it can be achieved, is

possible by Mr. Gladstone alone and the world's eye rests on his fragile figure with interest and solicitude pitched to the highest point. There is every chance of the struggle being protracted. The Radical and Home Rule Members of Parliament are combining to prolong the debate on the Bill, in the belief that such a course may improve the chances of the second reading being passed.

MASS MEETING.

It can no longer be pretended that the masses of the people of India are supremely indifferent to their political and material welfare and that they leave the work of political agitation in the hands of Calcutta Baboos. The mass movement is spreading all over the country, slowly but steadily, and one commendable feature of the movement, which augurs well of its success, is that it is not characterised by any thing like the lawlessness and rowdysm so common in Europe and America in connection with similar movements. It is a significant sign of the times that thousands and tens of thousands of poor, indigent, and illiterate cultivators of the soil should throw off the cares of life and meet on one common platform to deliberate on questions relating to their political and material weal. The charge of the initiative of these movements being taken by the "Baboo" wire-pullers of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, need not be taken any very serious notice of, for supposing it to be true to the letter, which the well-informed have grave reasons to doubt, there seems to be nothing very wrong or baneful for the educated people to mix freely with their poor and uneducated brethren to try to elevate their condition and to educate and enlighten them so far as possible, in the ways of lawful political demonstrations. Anglo-Indians used to cry down all our demonstrations on the pretended score that we were only half-a-dozen of us, and did not represent the masses, the back bones of the nation. As soon, however, as we made up for the defect, and turned the table upon our adversaries by enlisting the sympathy and receiving the aid and assistance of the majority of our countrymen, the burthen of the song which would have to be kept up whether fair or foul, had to be changed, and we are now told that these demonstrations are worthless, inasmuchas they are inspired from some political centre like Calcutta, Bombay or Madras, that professional agitators go down from these places to take part in and get up these demonstrations, and that they are invariably held close to a railway station in order to enable these people to go down, and so on. If we could have afforded to notice captious and unmeaning criticisms like these we would have plenty of British precendents and antecedents to point at in reply, and could have shown that any or all of these fanciful allegations do not in the least tend to detract from the value or importance of these demonstrations. They may not be successful now to the extent that we desire. But the very fact of their being held day after day, in however imperfect and crude a shape, speaks well of the future success of these movements, and, as we venture to hope, at no very distant date. The movement is gaining ground steadily, and is no longer confined to any solitary tract of country. If Jhinkergatcha led the way, Baduria, Nudea, Shatpookoor and Tarkessur followed suit in no unworthy fashion. The list, however, is by no means yet at an end; it is going on swelling every day. Only yesterday another grand demonstration was held at Oolooberia, where various resolutions on important public questions were passed which need not be reproduced. The wire-pullers or professional agitators who could give tangible universality to these movements would, we submit be quite worthy of praise and admiration even of fault-finding Anglo-Indians. As a matter of fact, these movements are, and must in their nature be, spontaneous or else they could not simply grow and flourish as they are doing. Had they been confined to Bengal, or the enlightened districts alone, there might have been some room for the doubts sought to be raised by our hostile critics. The distant districts of Assam, Goalpara, Debrughur, Tezpore, and Golaghat are having their mass meetings just in the same way as Bengal is having hers. The Madras Presidency is not slow in following in the wake. In short, the movement is spreading its wholesome influence wherever there is room for it. The Tanjore, remission scandals of Madras have justly kindled the indignation of the Southerners, and they are loudly giving vent to their disapproval of the baneful policy followed by Government in this regard, assembled in crowded and enthusiastic meetings. On the 17th instant one of these meetings was held at Kumbakonam, and is described to have achieved grand success. Over ten thousand people were present. The leading Mirasidars of the district, including many Mahomedans and Christians, came from the different Taluqs to attend the meeting. The spacious front of the Kumbasara Swami temple was crowded. There was great excitement in the town. The chair was taken by Doraswamy Mopanar the leading landlord of the Kumbakonam Taluq. Several Mirasidars spoke, condemning Mr. Thomas's inquiry, and an "Aiyar adduced facts to prove that the enquiry was unfair and high handed," and said that perseverence would bring them justice. A memorial was adopted deprecating the secrecy of the report and the one sided nature of the enquiry, and praying for a fresh and impartial inquiry. Important as the proceedings of the meeting in themselves were it ended in quite a significant manner which unfriendly reviewers of the movement should not, in common fairness be allowed to lose sight of. The meeting, we are told, closed with enthusiastic cheers for the Queen-Empress. This we take it was no unmeaning and insensate hurrah or a superannuated note in honor of an ideal or revolutionary personage, but a deliberate expression of staunch and unflinching loyalty to their Queen and Sovereign, and an unmistakable declaration on their part and on the part of the millions that were not actually present in the meeting, but were represented in it all the same, that however unfavourable their opinion might be regarding individual action, their loyalty and devotion to their Sovereign would under all circumstances remain firm and unshaken. We are very much pleased that the promoters and organisers of these movements understand and appreciate this excellent spirit so well and so largely, and in working singlemindedly in this combined spirit of unswerving loyalty to the Crown and unmitigated opposition to injustice and oppression, they afford the sole guarantee of the success of these movements.

BARON VON HUBNER'S "BRITISH EMPIRE."

The Baron Von Hubner, a German traveller, lately made a hurried tour through this country, and has now published his experiences to the world. In his new book entitled "Through the British Empire" the Baron gives a most flattering estimate of the results of British rule in India. We do not know what opportunities he had for making himself acquainted with the condition of the people and what use he made of them. It seems that in his tour through this country he placed himself completely under the guidance of Anglo-Indians, and merely saw what his guides chose to show him. He did not take the trouble to exercise his independent judgment. He did not, like Mr. Wilfrid Blunt, avoid Collectors' bungalows, and the consequence was that he saw everything through official spectacles.

The Baron Von Hubner's visit to this country has satisfied him that India has never been as prosperous as she is now. He writes: "The appearance of the Natives for the most part well-clothed, and of their villages and well-furnished cottages, and of their well-cultivated fields, seem to prove this. In their bearing there is nothing servile, in their behaviour towards their English masters there is a certain freedom of manner and a general air of self-respect, nothing of that abject deference which strikes and shocks new comers in other Eastern countries. I have no means of comparing the Natives of to-day with the Natives of a former generation; but I have been able to compare the populations who owe direct allegiance to the Empress with the subjects of the feudatory Princes. For example, when you cross the frontier of Hyderabad, the climate, the soil, the race are the same as those you have just quitted; but the difference between the states is remarkable, and altogether to the advantage of the Presidency of Madras or Bombay." It has scarcely been our lot to read so many misstatements compressed within so short a pace. What the Baron Von Hubner says about the masses of the people in this country being well-clothed and their possessing well-furnished cottages, is certainly news to us. We should very much like to know where the worthy Baron saw these well-furnished cottages. Do they exist in his imagination? We fancy that the Baron merely visited a village in the immediate vicinity of Calcutta or Bombay where the working classes are remarkably well off. He cannot have seen what the actual condition is of the people in the interior of the country. We have, in noticing Mr. John Slagg's lecture on Poverty in India in a recent issue, shewn that at the time of the establishment of British rule in Bengal in 1827 the condition of the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa was one of great prosperity and that agriculture, commerce and manufacture were alike in a flourishing state. Mr. Mountstuart Elphinistone has given a similar account of the condition of the Deccan districts which, on the overthrow of the Peshwa in 1818, were incorporated with the British territory. Now, it is admitted in official reports that the Behar peasant is notoriously poor, and that the wretched Kunhi or cultivator of the Deccan passes his days in a state of abject and hopeless misery. The Baron Von Hubner cannot have read the report of the Deccan Riots Commission and the evidence produced before it. Has he compared the condition of the people of Hyderabad with that of people in adjoining British districts? But we should very much like to know whether he instituted a comparison between the population of Jhansi and that of the circumadjacent Native States. If he had done so, he would have found that the difference is very great and is entirely to the advantage of the feudatory chiefs concerned. Then we are particularly anxious to know whether the Baron visited Oudh and made any inquiries into the condition of its cultivating classes. We would commend to his careful and attentive consideration the following from *The Garden of India*, by Mr. Irwin, of the Bengal Civil Service, and a member of the Oudh Commission. He thus describes the miserable condition of the agricultural classes in Oudh:—"Taking the province as a whole, it is scarcely too much to say that a large portion of cultivators have neither food sufficient to keep them in health, nor clothes sufficient to protect them from the weather; that their cattle are miserably thin and weak from underfeeding, that they are hardly ever out of debt for twelve months together, and that, except on specially favourable occasions, they are dependent on the money-lender for their food for from two to six months in the year. . . . . The Oudh tenantry and their families—men, women and children together—do not in an average consume even so much as 24oz. of food-grain per diem. Well-fed-looking men are certainly the exception among them rather than the rule, and it is notorious that the able-bodied adult convict nearly always increases in weight after four months with a goal diet of 24oz. The condition of the Oudh cultivator might seem to be life reduced to its lowest terms. . . . . Every where in every hamlet, there is a residence of half-clad starvelings, who have no cattle and no means of livelihood save, perhaps a tiny patch of spade-tilled land; and their labour remunerated at the rate of 4lbs. of coarse grain, or of three-half-pence or, at most, two-pence farthing per diem. And even this wretched employment is not procurable all the year round. How, underfed and almost unclothed as they are, they contrive to live through the cold nights of winter which they often spend in field-watching to keep off thieves, is a standing marvel." We should very much like to know what the Baron Von Hubner has to say in answer to the statements made by Mr. Irwin regarding the condition of the Oudh peasantry. The deplorable state of things described above is not confined to Oudh. It exists in many other parts of the country.

Dr. Hunter, the greatest living authority on Indian statistics, has recorded that no less than 40 millions of people or one-fifth of the entire population of British India pass through life in a state of chronic starvation. The worthy Baron, who saw Natives, for the most part well-clothed, and their well-furnished cottages, would do well to ponder over what we have said above.

Not content with speaking of the material condition of the people of India under British rule in such flattering terms, Baron Von Hubner goes on to assert that the relations of the civil and military officers with the people leave nothing to be desired. This is another original discovery of the Baron's. The wide gulf which separates the rulers from the ruled in this country has for a long time past been a matter of deep regret to all its sincere well-wishers. We admit that it would be a grievous perversion of truth to say that there is actually any antagonism between the governors and the governed in India. But it is undeniable that the relations of the civil and military officers are far from what they ought to be. It is not too much to say that no Native gentlemen, whatever their rank, age or character, can visit a place of public resort frequented by Europeans, without a certain risk of insult and rough treatment, and Railway travelling is notoriously dangerous for them in this respect. Although there may not be really social intercourse between the two races owing to the caste rules of our countrymen, we do not see any reason why Englishmen in India should not treat Natives as one European gentleman treats another. The simple truth is, that the average Englishman thinks that a Native has no feeling, or ought not to have any, and that is the reason for the unsatisfactory relations which now exist between the two races. Baron Von Hubner has also discovered that throughout India the Native prefers in civil still more in criminal cases, to be tried by the English Judge. This may be the case in those provinces where the Subordinate Judicial and Executive Services are still recruited from among uneducated and dishonest men of the amla class. But we must emphatically deny that anything like such a feeling exists in Bengal, where the Munsifs and Subordinate Judges are now better lawyers than the District Judges who hear appeals against their decisions. The Baron's estimate of the character of the Native Press is exactly what might have been expected from him. He is of opinion that it does more harm than good. He points out that so unfavourable is the universal opinion among Anglo-Indians that freedom of the Native Press would long ago have been a thing of the past were it not for the fact that the liberty of the Press holds a foremost place among the principles of the Liberal party in England. A little reflection would have convinced the Baron that the Anglo-Indian bureaucrat cannot, from the very nature of things, be expected to form a correct estimate of the character of the Native Press. His views upon this subject are quite worthless; and it is a pity that Baron Hubner should have adopted them without taking the least trouble to ascertain by personal study how far they are well-founded.

THE ANNEXATION OF THE CALCUTTA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WHEN we last wrote on this subject we had nothing but the last Quarterly Report of the Calcutta Corporation for our guidance. In it we found a chapter beginning with the words: "The Commissioners have had under consideration the following proposals for the re-organization of the Calcutta Public Library." This was followed by a series of 9 'proposals," terms, conditions, or rules, whatever may be the right designation for them. They were worded in the form of rules, such as, "the Free Library to be open from 6 A. M. to 10 P. M. daily" &c., and we called them rules. Then followed the words, "nothing definite has been done as yet. The proposal of making the Library over to the Municipality has been referred by the proprietors to the Council of the Library." These led us to the inference—quite a natural one—that the proposal emanated from the Municipality, and most probably from its Chairman, with whom rests the initiation of new proposals, and if we were mistaken in it, as we are now told and find we were, the blame rests entirely with the report which misled us. Had it been more precisely worded, or had Mr. Harrison, at the Municipal meeting, instead of being "greatly surprised," and roundly declaring with great emphasis that he knew nothing whatever about the rules, explained who drafted the rules, and how the matter came up before the Municipality, he would have spared the public much angry discussion, and us the necessity in self defence of writing in a tone which we dislike. He knew everything about the matter, and could have easily explained it without disclosing any secret. We have now got all the papers connected with the subject. It appears from them that when the Bengal Government's proposal to clap some official members on the Council of the Library and secure "a potent voice" in its management, was rejected by the proprietors of the Library, Mr. Mackenzie, who was the author of the scheme adopted a different line of tactics. In his capacity of a proprietor, he wrote two letters to the President of the Council of the Library. That the letters are acrimonious in tone goes without saying; a gentleman who described the late Chief Justice of the High Court as "an elderly country gentleman" possessing no knowledge of India in a professedly private letter which he got printed at the cost of Government and circulated widely among his friends and acquaintances, cannot be very mild in his tone when he is foiled. However, he, as a proprietor had every right to address letters to the head of the Library, and there is nothing to be said about them. He went further. He sent copies of these letters (one of them containing the aforesaid rules or proposals) to the Bengal Government for such action as it might think proper to adopt in regard to them, adding that no grant in aid of the Library funds will be sanctioned until satisfactory securities are given that the management of the Library will be in future more creditable than it has been in the recent past. The Library is strictly private property with which the Government has no connexion whatever; but obviously it wants to get it under its own management, and so it readily lent itself to the scheme proposed, and ordered copies of the letters to be forwarded to the Municipality with a view to action being taken in the matter. The Town Council had the letters placed before them on January 15, and then Mr. Harrison knew all about it. The order of the Council on the occasion was to open communication with the Library. On February 6 the Town Council received a letter from the President of the Library stating in reply to the Town Council's letter, that the matter was then under the consideration of his Council. With these papers before him, Mr. Harrison was very ill advised in giving the reply he did to Mr. Cotton's questions.

To turn, however, now to the scheme of Mr. Mackenzie. He says, "I venture to trouble the Government because I believe the establishment of a Free Library in Calcutta is a matter of public moment in which the Local Government may see fit to interest itself; and because I am convinced that unless some stimulus from without is applied, the project of establishing such a Library is not likely to be effectively handled by the Council of the Public Library as at present constituted. On the other hand I am aware that many persons, both in the proprietory body and outside it, would welcome the elaboration of a scheme which would give to the Town of Calcutta such an Institution as many of the large towns in England now possess, and the capital of the Punjab is, under Sir C. Aitchison's auspices, arranging to establish. In the Metcalfe Hall collection we already have the nucleus of a first class Library." It is difficult to conceive a more misleading statement than this. It takes for granted that there is no free *public* library, in Calcutta, when in fact the Metcalfe Hall collection is by its name a *public* library, and it is as *free* as any public or national library on the face of the earth. True, it is owned by a private proprietory body, but that is purely nominal or technical. The proprietors are bound by the constitution of their institution to hold it in trust for the *public* and keep it *free*, and to have no proprietory right of any kind to the stock and block, and no Government Library could do more. In fact if the proposal has been approved by Government the definition "respectable citizen", would, as shown in our last article on the subject greatly circumscribe the freedom, instead of widening it. Certain it is that the Government has not been half so liberal in regard to the several collections of books it owns in Calcutta. The large collection in the Bengal Office, the valuable collections of scientific books in the Indian Survey office, and in the Royal Botanical Gardens, the extensive collections in the Presidency and the Sanskrit Colleges, are not open to the public. Looking at these facts, Mr. Mackenzie, as the mouthpiece of Government, should have been the last to carp at the managing body of the Public Library. Doubtless the proprietors have the right of borrowing the books, but as Mr. Mackenzie's scheme does not propose to deprive them of it, nothing need be said about it here. The reference by Mr. Mackenzie to provincial town libraries in England is quite beside the point. None will deny the advantage of having large public libraries, and the public will doubtless hail with pleasure the establishment of such an institution in the metropolis of British India; but its absence does not in any way reflect any descredit on "the Council of the Public Library as at present constituted." We do not quite understand whether the phrase "as at present constituted" applies to the Library or to the Council; but in either case, it is futile. The Public Library "is not constituted, to supply the place of a national institution, nor is the Council bound legally or morally to do any thing of the kind. Its only duty is to supply the wants of its subscribers for light literature, and so long it does that regularly it is fully exonerated. The duty of providing a national institution belongs to Government, and the discredit of not having discharged it yet must rest with the Government, and the Government only. The idea of bringing "stimulus" i. e. pressure, to bear on private individuals for the performance of what the Government is bound to do but has not yet done, can be entertained only by the Bengal Government of which Mr. Mackenzie was so long the most trusted representative. The reference to the Library, which "the capital of the Punjab is, under Sir C. Aitchison's auspices, arranging to establish," is certainly amusing. The idea of a non-existent institution to serve as the model for Calcutta, may be a good bit of soap indirect to Sir C. Aitchison, but it does not come under the range of practical business. We are told that "in the Metcalfe Hall collection we already have the nucleus of a first class Library." But why a "nucleus" only? A collection of fifty thousand volumes daily in use by the public constitutes a good library by itself, and not the nucleus of one. Certain it is that in no part of India, except Bombay, is there so large and so rich a library as the Calcutta Public Library, and most of the national Libraries in the large towns of England, to which Mr. Mackenzie so sympathetically appeals, do not show a larger catalogue. To strengthen his case Mr. Mackenzie dwells at considerable length on the shortcomings of "the Council of the Public Library as at present constituted." The charges are—that the rooms of the Library are overcrowded; that many of the books are dilapidated; that the establishment entertained is insufficient; that the annual grants for purchases are poor; that the grants are frittered away on ephemeral light literature, and that standard works of reference are not bought to a sufficient extent. We are no apologists of the Council, and we are bound to state that the charges are true enough, as facts; but we repudiate the idea of their having any bearing on the Council. The Council can only utilize to the best advantage the resources at their disposal, and not to provide resources, and so long as it cannot be shown that they have failed to husband their resources to the best advantage, no blame whatever should rest on them. The house is too small for their present stock of books, and is therefore overcrowded; so was the Bengal Secretariat when it was located in the premises of St. John's College in Chowringhee, but no one ever thought of finding fault with Mr. Mackenzie, under whom it was, for the overcrowding. There are dilapidated books in the Library; but bind-

ing costs money, and the Council have no money to spare. They, therefore applied to the Government for a grant, and to the best of our information the Government has given them no money, and Mr. Mackenzie recommends that no help should be given until the Library is practically surrendered to Government; he nevertheless finds fault with those who cannot get books bound without money. The same remark applies to insufficient grants for purchase of books. It is no sin of the beggar that he has to put on ragged clothes; help him first and then blame him if he does not buy clean and new clothes, but invests the money in schnapp or rum. As regards selection, the Council of the Public Library have Hobson's choice of it. The subscribers insist upon having new novels and new periodicals, and the Council must provide them or lose their subscribers. The subscribers as a body do not care for standard books on history, literature and science. We are sure that within the last ten years it would be difficult to find in the records of the Library half-a-dozen enteries of Xenophon, Thucidides, Euripides, Aristophanes, or Plato or even Spencer, or Huxley, or Michelet issued to Mr. Mackenzie, or any other great officer of State. In fact, books of those descriptions crumble, because they are never touched. How can the Council purchase, consistently with their duty to their clients, books of such description at the expense of Zolas and Ouidas which are in hourly demand? They would soon be put out of their places if they did.

In short, the alleged mismanagement is no mismanagement at all, but the inevitable result of want of money. Money must be got somehow, or the Library, which has outgrown its resources, must suffer. Now, money can be had from two sources—from monthly subscription and from Government. The first has hitherto been the principal source from which the Library has derived the means of its support, but it is failing. Time was when it yielded over ten thousand rupees a year. It fell to rupees 7,341 in 1881, and last year it yielded barely rupees 6,031. With the ominous cry raised by Mr. Mackenzie we shall not be at all surprised if this year it should not yield quite rupees 5,000. The principal cause of the fall is, as we said in our last article, the exodus to the hills. The bigwigs æstivate on the hills for 8 months in the year, and do not care to subscribe, but when they come down to Calcutta they cry for all sorts of books, and if they don't get them, they denounce the managers of the Library in no measured terms. Would only a hundred persons out of the hundreds who draw more than a thousand rupees a month become first class subscribers, the Library would thrive like a colt in clover; but they wont. We look in vain on the list of subscribers for the names of most of those governors, judges, counsellors, State Secretaries, and heads of Departments who draw over rupees 2,500 a month. They get what they want in their clubs, or they don't care for any literary pabulum. Our leading merchants, barristers, and medical men are equally indifferent about subscribing to the Library. For peas and beans, and cauliflower seeds over five hundred men become subscribers to the Agri-horticultural Society, but for the latest literary productions of England one-fourth of them are not available. It is idle all to talk of their not getting what they want in the Library. They must provide the means first before they can get their want supplied. The managers of the Library cannot make bricks without straw. The present income is not even sufficient to cover the cost of an adequate establishment for the custody of a Library containing over 50 thousand volumes, and it is impossible to save enough for the purchase of new books. The total sum disbursed last year for "newspapers and periodicals" was rupees 247, or considerably less than what well-to-do private gentlemen pay for their supplies. We are sure the President of the Library pays considerably more. For book-binding we notice the miserable sum of rupees 85, or seven rupees a month. In the nature of things it is impossible to preserve 50 thousand volumes in order with so niggardly an allowance. The grant for purchase of books was Rs. 3,349, or about Rs. 200 a month. The sum scarcely, can cover the cost of five-and-twenty volumes of novels a month, and these must be had at every sacrifice, or the Library must be shut up. Had Mr. Mackenzie's brother secretaries and friends freely subscribed, such a state of things would never have arisen; but they did not, and in the present state of things there does not seem to be any prospect of a change coming over their feeling or idea of economy. Those who have failed to keep up a town band for the entertainment of themselves and their better halves will scarcely think of a free Public Library. The only alternative, therefore, is Government aid. The maintenance of a free national library is one of the duties of Government, and all civilised Governments contribute liberally for such institutions. Sir Rivers, however, will do nothing of the kind, and his *amicus usque ad aras* advises him to render no succour to the drowning man until he can by his own exertion swim to the shore, nor to the hungry until he gets himself well fed, or sells himself body and soul to the Government. Yes, no help until the management is improved, or, in other words, the defects noticed above are removed, and when they are removed by outside exertion there will be no need whatever for Government help. But we don't wish to quarrel with the Government about help. It has every right to exercise its own discretion about granting aid to private institutions; but we cannot but strongly condemn the policy of applying "stimulus" (what a significant word?) to force private individuals to surrender their property to Government. It is undignified it is huckstering, it is not a fit procedure for a great Government to stoop to. The Government is welcome to establish a free public library, if it is so minded. Such an institution will do good, and redoubt to the credit of Government. It will do no more harm to the Metcalfe Hall institution than what the British Museum does to the establishments of Mudie in England. The two can live and thrive without injury to each other. Nor is the annexation of the Public Library at all a necessary preliminary to the establishment of a national library. Of course between Soaplies and Government officers the Council of the Library will find a majority to agree to surrender the Library to Government through the Municipality of Calcutta; but the odiousness of the procedure will not be thereby removed. Had the Government given a monthly grant and found it misapplied, or not made the most of by the Council, the case would have been different; but as matters now stand we look upon the negociations as no other than one of varnished annexation.

By the way, we hear that our remarks on the proposed Library tax have suggested a new mode of operation; the amount is to be taken under the name of Education, even as the cost of Dry Monopole '57 port for our Aldermen is to be charged under the head of Public convenience.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IF the attitude of Greece in the present crisis is ambiguous that of Russia is doubly so. The Czar has issued an order to the sailors of the Black Sea in which he expresses a desire for the peaceful development of Russia. So far so well. What follows however betokens anything but peace or peaceful development. The covert unwillingness of Russia to aid the Great Powers in supporting Turkey is an open secret, and there is no knowing when Russia should suddenly find it to her purpose to aid Greece against the Powers should she continue in her bellicose mood. The Czar in the abovementioned ordergives clear indication of this, when His Majesty adds that circumstances might necessiate the armed defence of the Russian Empire, this exhortation is evidently not required in the interest of the Powers, for they are strong enough. Greece has not yet let the world know whether she will try the old game again. M. Stefanopulos, who is said to be pacific in his policy, and who was put forward as a candidate by M. Tricoupis was elected President of Greek Chamber of Deputies. The ministry however could not be kept together long as peaceful counsels are no longer in favour in Greece, and have separated. M. Tricoupis has been trying to form a new ministry. We have in the meanwhile recieved news of active hostilities having commenced. The Greeks and Turks have been fighting for the whole day on the 21st for the possession of Anapolis. At the sametime the orders given for the demobilisation of the Greek Army have been countermanded, and the Greek troops have been ordered to the frontier. There was too much bad blood in play to yield to peaceful advice. Matters will mend after a copious bleeding.

A CORRESPONDENT has taken us to task for our having said that the Moribund House at Kumartoli Ghat has been made a party question. He emphatically denies that there is any party feeling whatever in it. We regret we cannot accept this assurance. The original Kumartoli Ghat with a handsome pavilion (chadni) over it was erected by the late Srimutty Krishna Mohini Dasi, a sister of the late Raja Kali Krishna Bahadur. The Port Commissioners, when improving the foreshore of the river demolished the Ghat and entered into an engagement to erect a new one on the site, and and to name it, as the old one was, after the pious lady. The two flights of the steps now to be seen at the spot have been erected in part redemption of this engagement, and the Commissioners have some money in hand to put up a masonry pavilion over the landing, and set up an inscription to the honor of the lady. Those who represent the lady insist upon this contract being carried out in its integrity. On the other side the proposition is that a moribund house be erected on the landing of the present Ghat at the cost of the estate of the late Raja Sir Radhakant and a marble inscription be set on it, stating "erected to the memory" &c., &c., naming the Raja. The obvious effect of this will be to deprive the pious lady of the credit of her monument To give a parallel case; were one to pay for a portico on the south side of the Dalhousie Institute, or on the east side of Prinsep's Ghat, and set up an inscription saying "erected by so and so" naming (the dedicator of the portico) the name of Dalhousie or Prinsep would be thrown in the back ground, if not entirely lost. For all practical purposes a moribund house to the north or south of the proposed site would not make the slightest difference. The contending parties know this perfectly well, and since the people of the one side are bent upon the despicable design of depriving the virtuous lady of her monument and those on the other, in justice to the memory of their deceased relation fight hard to frustrate the design, we cannot but look upon the matter as a party dispute. We are satisfied, however, that the Port Commissioners will never shirk from the path of duty.

THE BANKRUPTCY Bill has been referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Illbert, Sir Stuart Bayley, and Hon'ble Messrs. V. N. Mandlik, Evans, and Steel. Sir Stewart Bayley has obtained leave to introduce a bill to alter the constitution of the trust of the Indian Museum. The reports of the Select Committees on the Bills amending the North Western Provinces Rent Act and Land Revenue Act have been presented.

"EVERY one his own legal or medical adviser" is we are afraid, not always the soundest or safest of maxims. And "Dr." Goldsmith who killed the only patient he ever treated, namely himself, was not a solitary instance of self-opinionated quackery. Many more people howeverhave jeopardised their property and personal liberty by irresponsible legal advise, and it is no wonder that sensible men prefer the costly advice of a trained lawyer to cheap self-sufficient "opinions and ideas." A general knowledge of the law of the land, however, is acceptable nay a necessity, under all circumstances, as it tends to open the eyes of the people to their own interests more thoroughly and effectively, and serves to make them more peaceable and law-abiding. We are, therefore, always glad to encourage honest efforts to inculcate sound legal maxims among the generality of the people and to instruct and enlighten them in the ways of law. The success of these efforts,

may not always be of the most marked order, but their object is good. An effort of this kind has resulted in the production of a small Bengali work by Babu Jeevun Krishna Mukhopadhya, of Meherpore, called *Ain Siksha* or Lessons in Law. Within a small compass the compiler gives succinctly yet clearly and intelligibly and in simple and plain language the substance of twelve of the principal Acts in force in Bengal. The laws are not dealt with section by section as usual in regular works on law, but the compiler tries to place the whole thing in a nutshell as it were, and in a way calculated to be understood by the profession as well as by the lay public, without any very severe strain on their learning or intelligence. The book ought to be very useful to practising lawyers as well as their *clientelle* in the distant mufassil where proper legal advice may not be within easy reach. Messrs. S. K. Lahiri and Co., of Calcutta, are the publishers of the work, and it is got up in that firm's usual good style.

IN COURSE of the debate on the Income Tax Bill in the Legislative Council of the Governor General, Mr. Steel, the mercantile member, gave his opinion, that the price of the rupee was never likely to go below 1s. 6d., a forecast which, we then stated, would share the fate of that which had previously been made by some people to the effect that the Rupee would not go down below 1s. 9d., which too we had ridiculed. Within four months our remark has been verified. During the last week the rate of exchange ranged from 1 5 16/32 to 1, 5 3/32 the closing rate on Saturday was 1/5 5/16. the improvement being due to no Council drafts having been issued on Wednesday. We deeply sympathise with the European gentlemen on fixed pay who have to make monthly home remittances at such rates. As regards commerce the average on the whole import and export transactions might on paper appear to balance. But it yields no satisfaction to any one. As the Bengali adage has it the average depth of a river may not be more than knee-deep, but the fool who on the strength of it ventures to walk across that river gets drowned for his pains. TheIndian people will feel the effect of the fall mostly by its reaction on the State Budget. The difference of a farthing reacts on the Budget to the extent of twenty-five lakhs, and we have a fall of over three farthings already, and the man will be bold indeed who could say that the wheel has already come to the lowest. As matters now stand we are in for doubling the income-tax, or some thing equivalent to it. The only remedy lies in a judicious system of bi-metallism. We have urged this for several years, and have been repeatedly ridiculed for it, both by some of our contemporaries and by officials, not excepting a former Minister of Finance; but the pressure on our European friends has now become so direct and immediate that they cannot overlook it.

THE JURY who tried the notorious Postal Robbery case recommended that the coachman who found the parcels and the notes and delivered them to the Police should be handsomely rewarded. The Judge observed that a man who behaved in that way under such temptation ought to have some tangible reward. The Postal authorities have accordingly awarded him Rs. 150. Chatto Kahar, so far as he is concerned, has been served right; but what of others, his accomplices, for he must have had some? It is in the nature of things impossible that so gigantic a robbery should have been committed single-handed. Have not the police been able to unearth them? The culprits concerned in the money order forgery have been sentenced to transporation for life. The Judge, however, has recommended that the sentence should be commuted to transportation for 14 years.

MESSRS. FLEURY & Co., will give a grand pyrotechnic entertainment this evening in honor of the Queen's birth-day; children under 12 years of age will be admitted, free. The display will consist, among others, of compound fire-works, showers or Cascades of gold rain, Fairy Fountains and representations of the TajMahal and Mount Vesuvious. Music will be provided for the occasion.

THROUGH some agency the nature of which, we have no time to notice this week, the Entrance examination of the University of Calcutta has once more been brought to discredit. The results of the B. A. and B.L. Examinations of the year had not unnaturally led people to hope that the University authorities would leave no stone unturned in trying to avoid the scandals of the last year. But they had reckoned without their host, it appears, for the result of the Entrance Examination this year are worse if possible than those of the last. Out of some 4,394 students who went up to the examination only 1,337 have been declared by the University as fit to further prosecute their studies. The following table gives the comprative supriority of some of the Calcutta Institutions:—

F. A. Examination.

	1st div.	2nd div.	3rd div.	Total.
Metropolitan Institution ...	6	49	41	96
Free Church ditto ...	4	13	32	49
Ripon College ...	1	13	31	45
Presidency College ...	7	16	12	35
St. Xavier's College ...	5	17	14	36
General Assembly's Inst....	5	7	21	33
City College ...	4	17	9	26
Albert College ...	1	1	9	11
Sanskrit College ...	1	3	4	8
Doveton College ...	2	1	0	3
LaMartinier ...	1	1	0	2

Entrance Examination.

	1st div	2nd div.	3rd div.	Total.
Hare School ...	5	19	8	32
Metropolitan Institution ...	9	9	13	31
Hindu School ...	7	11	6	24
St. Xavier's ...	9	5	1	15
Albert Collegiate School ...	1	3	5	9
Metropolitan S. Branch ...	0	5	2	7
Ripon College ...	0	3	4	7
City Collegiate School ...	3	2	1	6
Oriental Seminary ...	2	1	2	5
Metropolitan B. Branch ...	1	3	1	5
Free Church Institution ...	0	2	3	5
General Assembly's Inst. ...	0	1	2	3

It will be seen that the Hare School with its grand file of 32, heads the list and the Metropolitan Institution which has passed 31 comes off second best. The heads of institutions one and all affirm that they had hoped for infinitely better results, and something must be deplorably wrong once more to have brought about this next to disastrous result. Is it too much to expect that our "grave" Senators will shake off the lethargy a little and try to remove the grievous injustice done. An official committee of apology is not what is wanted, but an honest and conscientious enquiry in the interest of the innocent aggrieved. In the First Arts Examination the results are better and as many as 763 candidates have passed. The Metropolitan Institution has turned out no less than 96 or nearly one-fifth of the number of successful candidates. The Ripon College has passed 45 and the City College 26. A Presidency College man heads the list. 13 girls have passed the Entrance Examination.

MR. SIMPSON, the newly elected Health-Officer, of Calcutta has arrived in town and taken charge of his office. The connection of Dr. Sanders, who so long filled the post with credit and ability, with the Municipality, is not, however, we are glad to notice, to be severed, for it would be a distinct loss to the Corporation. He has been appointed a Commissioner in the place of Mr. Nolan, who has resigned his appointment on account of his elevation to the Secretariat.

THE Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, is we are happy to observe, steadily gaining support. Babu Ramkissen, the well known merchant has subscribed Rs. 2,000 in aid of the funds of the Association, of which Rs. 1,000 is for the Building Fund, and the rest for the Ripon Professorship. We should very much wish to see more names on the subscribers' list, if the funds are to be placed on a substantial basis.

TELEGRAMS.

ON THE 14th of May the Afghan Boundary Commission were at Daulatabad, having been joined by the Russian Commission at Kassawakila, 40 miles from Charshamba, on the 10th. The Commissions were to proceed to Kamiab on the 15th. Owing to the inundations the season has been particularly unhealthy, but on the whole the general health of the party is fair. The Uzbegs have suffered severely in life and property from the recent floods. The *Times* publishes a telegram stating that the Commissioners have settled the Afghan boundary to within 20th mile of the River Oxus.

THE Republican party are raising a great outcry against the Comte de Paris holding receptions in Paris. The French Government contemplate his exclusion from France.

ACCORDING to a Simla telegram the Bolan Railway is expected to be completed in about a fortnight.

SHOCKS of earthquake were felt at Debrughur and south Sylhet on the morning of the 19th instant.

COUNT Herbert Bismark has been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Empire.

AN Assam Correspondent telegraphs that Baboo Ghansam Borua, the Secretary of the Rayats' Association, attended a meeting of about 500 rayats, and explained the object of the land revenue regulations. Each of the rayats volunteered to pay two annas to the fund of the Association. A sum of Rs. 36 was collected immediately.

A GRAND banquet was given in the Fishmongers' Hall on the 15th instant in honour of the Executive Commissioners of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. The Duke of Cambridge made a speech, in which he said that the feeling of unity throughout the Empire was never stronger. He advocated federation. We were all proud of India, he said, and meant to do our duty by her, by doing justice to the native population, but did not mean to give up. He believed if ever India were attacked our Colonies would help England.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL,—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq., District Medical Officer Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of and other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both the lungs were a mass of tubercular desposits and every possible sound to be heard in Phithisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in, the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford & Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*May 19, 1886.*

GENERAL.—Mr. D. Norton, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in that district, *vice* Mr. E. Stewart, transferred.

Mr. T. J. Mendes, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurigram, Rungpore is transferred to Darjiling, and is posted to the sudder station of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Baboo Dano Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is appointed to have charge of the Kurigram Sub-Division of that district.

Baboo Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hughly, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-four days under section 72 and 74, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Surjo Kumar Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanabad, Hughly, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Jessore.

Baboo Shamabhub Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Hughly, and is appointed to have charge of the Jehanabad Sub Division of that district.

The services of Mr. J. H. Bernard, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Ghattal, Midnapore, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Foreign Department.

Baboo Satya Taran Mukerji, Sub-Deputy Collector, Giridi, Hazaribaugh, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Bunkim Chunder Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jhenida, Jessore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Bhuddruck Sub-Division of the District of Balasore.

Mr. J. S. Davidson, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhuddruck Balasore, to appointed temporarily to have charge of the Khurda Sub-Division of the District of Puri.

Baboo Deno Nath Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is allowed leave for one month and a half, under section 72 and 74, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. P. G. Melitus, C, S., reported his departure from India, on special leave, on the 9th April 1886.

Advertisements.

THE
BANGABASI SCHOOL.
116 Bowbazar Street Calcutta.

The Bangabasi School will consist of two distinct branches, viz, (1) the General Branch which will teach, to begin with, up to the Entrance standard, and (2) the Agricultural Branch, which is intended to supply the want of Agricultural Education in India. The Managing Board of the School has thought it expedient to substitute a 6-years' course of study for the 9-years' course usual in most schools in Bengal, for, in their opinion, much of the valuable time of students is wasted for want of due occupation. There will be two terms each year, (1) the Dusserah Term (June to November) and (2) the Basanti Term (December to May.) After examinations at the end of each Term, liberal Scholarships and Prizes as well as Freeships will be awarded to deserving students in each class. The Scholarships will be one of Rs. 6 each, and the Freeships and Prizes, also one each for each class. At the end of the year, a grand special prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to the most successful student of the School. Besides, four Matriculation Prize of Rs. 100, Rs 50, Rs. 30 and Rs. 20 respectively will be awarded to the first four passed students of the Bangabasi School at the Entrance Examination each year, provided they pass it in the First Division.

25 students will receive Freeships in the Entrance class, provided they prove to the satisfaction of the Secretary that they deserve them and take their admission before the 1st of June.

As the teaching of English is usually very defective in most schools of Bengal, the Managing Board of the Bangabasi School is very happy to have secured the services of several gentlemen who, besides being distinguished graduates of the Calcutta University, have also had the advantage of education in England. Among these are Baboos Giris Chunder Bose M.A., M. R. A. C. F. C. S. etc, late Professor of the Cuttack College, Bhupal Chandra Basu B. A., M. R. A. C., etc Byomkes Chakravarti M. A., M. B. A. C., late Prof, of the Sheebpore Engineering College, A. K. Roy, M. A. B. A. C. & C. and Aghore Nath Chatterji M. R. C. P. etc. The Schooling fees will be Rs. 4 per mensem for the upper three classes, and Rs. 2 for the lower three; but in special cases they may be reduced to one half; admission fees the same as monthly fees. The Schooling fee for the Agricultural classes is Rs. 5.

Special Note:—The Bangabasi school is now open for admission, but classes will begin from the 1st of June. For further particulars see prospectus, or apply at the Bangabasi Office, 34, 1 Kalutolla St. Calcutta.

NOTICE.

ST. JOHN'S College. Agra. Wanted a Professor of Mathematics and Physics to teach F. A. classes. An M. A. or B. A. in Mathematical honours. Apply Principal.

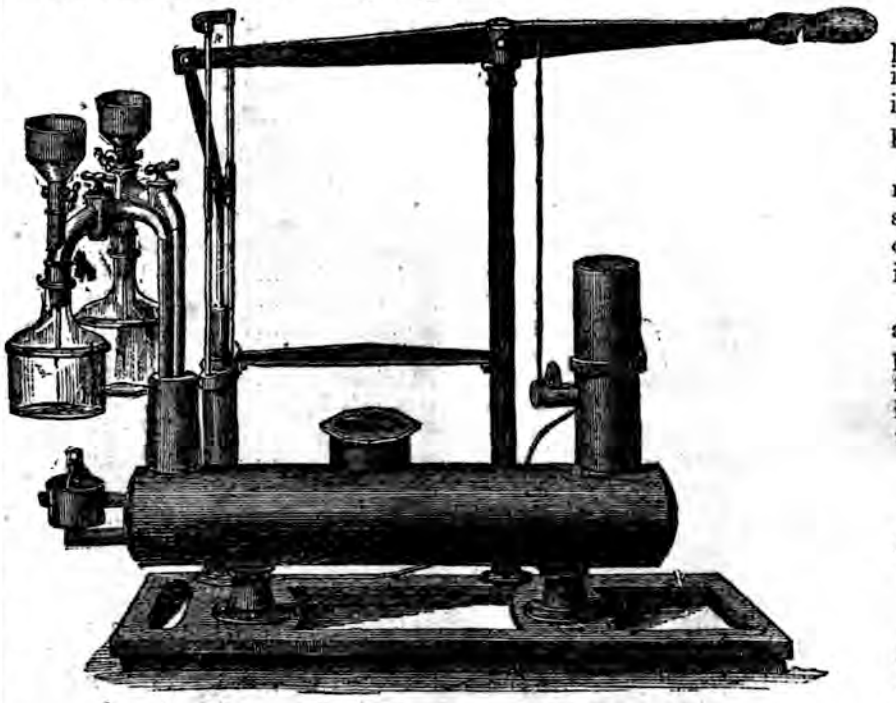
NOTICE.

WITH reference to the notice, dated the 29th March 1886, notifying the closure for repairs of the 7th and 8th reaches of the Midnapore Canal, viz., the reaches extending from Kantapookur on the river Roopnarain to Kooltaparah on the river Damoodur, and from the latter place to Oolooberiah on the Banspatty Khall, it is hereby notified for general information that the said reaches of the Midnapore Canal were re-opened to traffic on the 1st instant.

D. B. HORN, Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Dept. Irrigation Branch,
Calcutta, the 11th May 1886.

DOMESTIC ICE MACHINES
For the production of pure solid tasteless ice;—2 lbs in 20 minutes
THE PNEUMATIC ICE MACHINE.

THESE well known machines have been perfected with all the latest improvements and as now made they are not liable to get out of order. Once set up they are always ready to hand for the production of a cold drink or for the manufacture of ice in solid blocks; they can also be worked continuously for a very long time.



An illustrated pamphlet containing full instructions for working is supplied to each purchaser.

A. & Co. have just received a large consignment of all kinds of these machines. An inspection is invited.

N. B. The public are warned against the purchase of counterfeits, the production of irresponsible manufacturers.

AMMONIACAL
ICE MACHINES
For block Ice in Cylinders.
4lb size...Cash 250
2lb „ ... „ 175
N. B. Each Machine is tested before it is delivered.

Cash Prices.

For an improved single action or one decanter Ice Machine complete with its requisites and packed in a case	Cash Rs. 190
For an improved double action or two decanters Ice Machine complete with its requisites and packed in a case	Cash Rs. 275
For an improved double cylinder Ice Machine complete with its requisites and packed in a case	Cash Rs. 375
Sulphuric Acid in stone jars containing about 40lb packed in case... ...	Cash Rs. 10-4
Extra Decanters, Vases, Oils, Rubber Rings, Leather, Washers, Patent Wine Coolers, Rubber Bands. Bottle Elevators &c. can be supplied on application.	
Ice Boxes for preserving Ice &c.	Cash Rs. 22

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Anti-Dyspeptic Cocoa or Chocolate Powder.

GUARANTEED PURE SOLUBLE COCOA OF THE FINEST QUALITY, WITHOUT SUGAR OR ADMIXTURE.

The Faculty pronounce it the "most nutritious, perfectly digestible beverage for *Breakfast, Luncheon, or Supper,*" and invaluable for Invalids and Young Children.

Being absolutely "all Cocoa," with the excess of fat extracted, is four times the strength of preparations thickened yet weakened with arrowroot, starch, &c., and in reality cheaper than such mixtures. Made instantaneously with boiling water and palatable without milk, a teaspoonful to a breakfast cup costing less than one half-penny.

COCOATINA is the best Cocoa for INDIA and the COLONIES, *keeping for years in all climates,* being in a concentrated form.

Celebrated for remarkable Sustaining Properties. Specially adapted for Early Breakfasts. Adopted as a Medical Comfort the Royal Navy.

Retailed by Chemists, Grocers, &c., in *Air-tight Tins, at* 1s 6d, 3s, 5s. 6d.,
Sole Proprietors.

H SCHWEITZER & Co., 10, ADAM STREET, STRAND, LONDON,
AND ALL WHOLESALE HOUSES.

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25	64 12 0	48 8 0	41 0 0	25
30	68 8 0	51 10 0	44 0 0	30
35	73 8 0	56 0 0	47 12 0	35
40	79 8 0	61 0 0	52 2 0	40
45	86 0 0	66 10 0	57 8 0	45

Endowment Insurance which is an effective way of making a retiring provision for mature and old age. Table of Annual premiums for Insurance of Rs. 1,000

Without profits.

Age next Birth-day	Policy payable at death to his heirs if it happen sooner, or on the Anniversary of the day of the Insurance immediately before attaining.									Age next Birth-day
	Age 60			Age 50			Age 55			
	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	
20	32	2	0	34	14	0	38	14	0	20
25	36	0	0	40	0	0	46	0	0	25
30	42	4	0	48	0	0	57	6	0	35
35	50	0	0	59	2	0	75	4	0	30

N.B.—Risks on Native Lives are accepted on special terms. 302

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.

Description of a Large Clock now under Construction by the undersigned, which will be on view at their show Rooms during October

THE CLOCK is an 8 day spring striking clock, striking the hours on a large full toned gong and chiming the quarters on 8 Bells, which can be changed to the Cambridge chimes (which are on 4 Bells.) In connection with the clock there is a perpetual Calendar which gives the correct days of all the various months including the 29 days of February in the Leap year. There is also a military Procession worked by the clock representing various branches of the British Army consisting of Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry and the staff in review order, there is also a sentry on duty who salutes, a Drummer who beats the Drum, a Bugler who raises his Bugle to his mouth every few minutes, the whole of these figures are arranged at the top of the dial. There is also a Musical Instrument which is discharged by the clock and plays whilst the Procession is marching in review.

Near the bottom of the clock is placed a military Band which is concealed by a curtain and which is raised every hour when the Music is playing and the procession moving and falls again immediately after the clock has struck and remains drawn until the next hour. The case is made of Ebonized Mahogony and is about 6 feet high, 3 feet 6 inches wide and 2 feet 6 inches deep, ornamented with Brass mounts consisting of a large Vase at top and a large Pine at each corner of top of body of case, a large bell shaped dome with brass ornaments, each side of body of case in front are brass figures flowers and wreaths and is supported on Lions Claw-feet with men's heads. The circles on the dial to show minutes, hours, days of the month &c., are engraved and silvered, the centre and sides of the dial are richly enamelled. At the sides of the Case are massive brass ornamental handles and ornamental fret work.

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CALCUTTA,

MANUFACTURERS

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ALSO

Manufacturers of the Oriental Musical and Mechanical Clock,

Supplied to the Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore.

COOKE & KELVEY'S WATCHMAKERS

131

VERY VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Let this not escape any one's notice.

SEEDS ! SEEDS !! SEEDS !!!

If any one has a mind to grow early crops of our country vegetables including "Begoons" of several kinds, "Sims" or Beans of many varieties, Sags of sorts, "Laoos" of many sorts, Sankalloo, Palla Shusha, Palla Jhinga, Barsati Moolla, &c. &c., each packet containing 25 sorts can be had here now at Rs. 1-8.

20 Sorts of all sorts of native fruit seeds per packet Re. 1.

20 Sorts of ornamental trees, shrubs and choice creeper seeds per packet Rs. 1-8.

10 Sorts of rainy season flower seeds including Benares double Zinnia, Balsam, &c. &c., per packet, Re. 1.

All the above seeds were grown and collected in our vegetable-growing garden at Hatiarah, a place best suited for their growth.

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For our new list of plants and seeds send half anna postage stamp.

"Krishi Tatwa" for six years, most part pictorial, bound in one volume. Rs. 5—reduced from Rs. 8. Those who have a mind to learn Indian Agriculture, Horti and Floriculture and to become a clever gardener, should never lose this rare opportunity. Such rare books so low in price cannot be had for years more. The book consists of nearly 1300 pages written in so simple Bengali language. Send for the books and the seeds without delay. Fail not to take Brinjal and Moolla seeds received direct from Jara, the like of which was never before seen. The former at 12ans., and the latter at 8ans. per tolla.

PIKEPARA NURSELY, CALCULTA; *April* 1886. } NETTO G. CHATTERJEA.

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CASH PRICES.

3 Octaves, solid wood with Expression Knee-swell	Rs	75
4 „ „ „ „	„	90
Either of the above can be had folding, fitted in a travelling case, at a cost of Rs 10 extra.		
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5 „ „ „ „ „ with expression stop	„	135
5 „ in American Walnut	„	150
5 „ in solid polished oak...	„	160
5 „ 3 stops, in solid polished oak	„	200
5 „ 8 „ „ „ „	„	250
5 „ 13 „ „ „ „	„	450
5 „ 14 „ „ „ „	„	500
HAROLD & Co.'s Folding Organista or Travelling Harmonium, 3½ octaves in case	„	150

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OR

"BOX-HARMONIUMS."

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3 „ 1 „ „ „ (superior).....	„	50
3 „ 3 stops „ „	„	75
3½ „ 1 stop „ „	„	90
3½ „ 3 stops „ „	„	95
Self-Instruction Book for the above...	„	3

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CASH PRICES.

3 Octaves, 4 stops, in box	„	125
3½ „ 4 „ „ „	„	150

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Clarionets in B flat, of cocoa wood, 13 German Silver Keys, in velvet-lined wooden box, with lock and key. ... ... Cash Price Rs. 35.

Clarionets, in B flat, E flat, or C, of cocoa-wood, with German silver tips, keys, and rings, very highly finished, in mahogany velvet-lined box, with lock and key. Cash Price Rs. 88.

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FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.

ALL suffering from CATARRH, CONSUMPTION, OBSTINATE COUGHS or COLDS, and those affected with diseases of the Chest, Lungs and BRONCHIAL TUBES should take.

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OF

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This delicious Tonic Wine contains active PEPSINE and PEPTONE or "*perfectly digested meat*," ready for immediate assimilation with the blood.

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A pamphlet entitled "Ignorance the Cause of Numerous Eye-Diseases"—by S. S. Lawrence to be had from Messrs. Lawrence and Mayo, Ophthalmic Opticians—Opticians of the Principal Ophthalmic Surgeons in India, Old Bond Street, London, Rampart Row, Bombay, 3-4 Hare Street, Calcutta. 283

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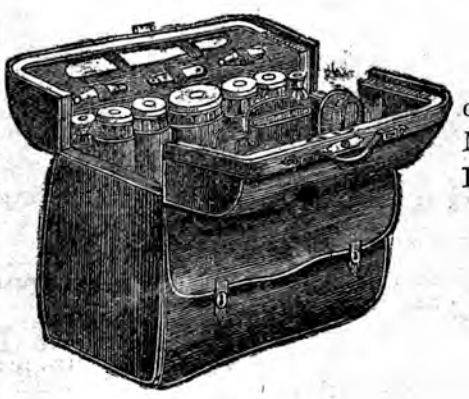

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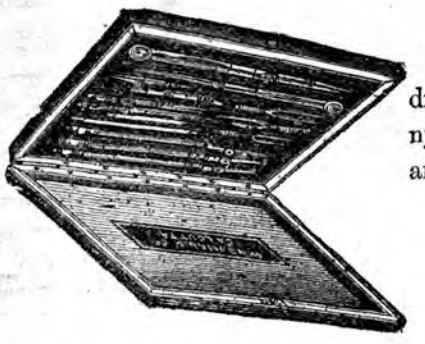

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